

9 September 2020

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 7356739**

I refer to your information request we received on 21 August 2020 for the following:

***My water comes from Te Horo Hautere. I note that it is close to the proposed 1080 drop zone. I'm concerned as the application for permission from Epro to do the drop (obtained under OIA as attached) does not mention in their letter to you of the Te Horo water supplies. (and it states 'Ōtaki bore will not be affected'). Epro plan to aerial drop in a zone with many streams and rivers that feed our water supplies.***

***Can you please tell me what response KCDC made to the document attached? ie. did you reply with any queries or concerns?***

The Kāpiti Coast District Council (Council) received the email and supporting information setting out the planning, operations area and measures to manage the operational and health risks. Copies of these are included in Appendix 1.

Council provided the operator with detailed location information of all Council's public water supply abstractions in the catchment to inform the risk management of the operation. These included Ōtaki and Hautere / Te Horo water supply scheme ground water bores. Based on the information provided, the nearest Council drinking water supply abstraction is some 3.6km from the operation area.

Further information from the operator advises that Ministry of Health (MoH) guidelines specify that no toxic bait should be applied to a waterway less than 400 meters upstream from a public waterway and that 400 metres has been determined to be sufficient to avoid risk to human health. Guidelines also require that public water supply providers within three kilometres of an aerial treatment are advised that the operation is taking place.

The operator is seeking the required permissions and approvals for this operation from landowners, Iwi and Department of Conservation and MoH.

***Can you also please tell me what testing of our Te Horo and Otaki water supplies is conducted and when?***

We treat all public water supplies in accordance with New Zealand Drinking Water Standards and monitor it to make sure it is safe to drink. Our water supplies are continuously treated with high-intensity ultra violet (UV) light and chlorine to kill any micro-organisms (bacteria, protozoa and viruses) that might be in the water. We continuously monitor the turbidity (measure of relative clarity of a liquid), pH (measure of how acidic/basic the water is) and free available chlorine (measure of chlorine that is available to react with contaminants). Additional testing of the water in the network is undertaken on a routine scheduled basis to ensure it meets the standards.

In addition to this routine testing, tests for residual 1080 toxins have also been requested following the operation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sean Mallon', is enclosed within a thin blue rectangular border.

**Sean Mallon**

Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka



## Important information

Warning signs will be placed at all main access points to the operational area and everyone must follow the cautions on the signs. There's no health risk when using this area as long you follow these instructions:

**Do not** handle any bait or allow children to wander unsupervised. Cereal baits containing 1080 are dyed green.

**Do not** hunt or take game from within a two kilometre radius of

the operational area for human or pet consumption. It's an offence to sell meat products that have been exposed to 1080. Hunting can resume approximately four months following the control work.

Please observe these rules whenever you see warning signs about the pesticide. Warning signs indicate that pesticide residues may still be present in the baits or carcasses. When the signs are officially removed, you can resume normal activities in the area.



### What to do if you suspect poisoning

Contact your local hospital or doctor, or dial 111

National Poisons Centre  
**0800 POISON (764 766)**

If a domestic animal is poisoned, contact a local veterinarian.



### Further information

#### OSPRI

Palmerston North Office  
**P** 06 353 2710  
**E** vector.sni@ospri.co.nz  
**W** ospri.co.nz

#### DOC

Wairarapa  
**P** 06 377 0700  
**E** masterton@doc.govt.nz  
**W** doc.govt.nz

#### Contractor

Epro Ltd  
**P** 0800 ASK EPRO  
(0800 275 3776)  
**E** control@epro.co.nz

For more information on **controlling bovine TB and how and why 1080 is used** in New Zealand, visit [1080facts.co.nz](http://1080facts.co.nz)

**DOC's Tiakina Nga Manu work see;** [www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/tiakina-nga-manu/](http://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/tiakina-nga-manu/)

For guidance on **recreational hunting** see our factsheet 'TB Information for Hunters' at [ospri.co.nz](http://ospri.co.nz)

For guidance on **commercial hunting** see the Ministry for Primary Industries and Department of Conservation websites.

For more information see OSPRI's **Operational Status Page**, or DOC's **Pesticide Summary**.



## Tararua Livestock and Taonga Species Protection Operation



### Timeframe

This operation will begin in the first suitable weather window from **July 2020**.



### Planning

- DOC and OSPRI are consulting with iwi and stakeholders before details of the operation are finalised
- Following feedback DOC and OSPRI will create an operational plan to mitigate the effects of the operation.
- An aerial contractor will be doing the control on behalf of OSPRI's TBfree, and DOC's Tiakina Ngā Manu programmes.
- Before the operation, the aerial contractor will contact and visit affected landowners and occupiers to discuss boundary issues, water supply safety, and the management of risks to dogs and livestock.
- Permissions from landowners and iwi, and consents from the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Health are required for this operation.

- Affected landowners and occupiers will be contacted again before the operation starts, to provide further details of changes in the plan due to the consultation phase and provide more information on the time frame. Public notices will be published in local newspapers and warning signs will be placed at all likely access points to the operational area.



### Operation details

- The operation will begin with the distribution of non-toxic cereal pellets by helicopter. These brown cylindrical shaped baits are 4cm long and 16mm wide.
- The toxic operation will occur one-two weeks later (weather dependent). Each bait contains 0.15% of sodium fluoroacetate and will be distributed at a 1.5-2kg/ha rate. Toxic baits are green, 16mm-20mm wide and cylindrical shaped.

- Advanced GPS navigational equipment will be used to ensure the pellets are accurately placed, exclusion zones avoided and an accurate record of bait distribution obtained.

### Benefits of collaboration between DOC and OSPRI

The large-scale possum control of the TBfree programme interrupts the cycle of TB infection in wildlife, and keeps possum numbers low enough for the disease to die out.

Predator control operations remove possums, rats, and stoats that thrive in our forest habitats and devastate our taonga bird, lizards, and snail species. TBfree work on the farms in the Wairarapa has helped nature sanctuaries such as Pūkaha Mount Bruce achieve their pest reduction goals. By knocking the predator population down and keeping numbers low, the native species in the area are able to regenerate.



### Do not bring dogs into the area until the warning signs have been officially removed.

Dogs are particularly susceptible to 1080. They must not be allowed access to bait or poisoned carcasses which remain toxic to dogs until they have fully decomposed.

Free dog muzzles will be provided on request. Please contact OSPRI on 06 353 2710 or [vector.sni@ospri.co.nz](mailto:vector.sni@ospri.co.nz) to obtain a muzzle.



### There is no risk to public drinking water

Biodegradable 1080 is highly soluble and does not persist in water or soil. Local health authorities apply strict conditions to aerial operations so that drinking water supplies are not contaminated. Safety has been confirmed by tests on several thousand water samples taken after aerial 1080 operations over many years.



TBfree is an OSPRI programme



TBfree is an OSPRI programme





- OSPRI's Northern Tararua Operational Boundary
- ▨ DOC's Tiakina Ngā Manu - Project Kākā Operational Boundary
- Proposed boundary for aerial control (subject to consultation)

## DOC's work in Tararua Forest Park – Project Kākā

Possums, goats and other introduced pests are controlled in the Tararua Forest Park to protect native flora and fauna.

An intensive possum control programme was started in 1994 using aerial distribution of 1080 cereal baits at six-to-seven year intervals across more than 60,000 ha of the range. By 2004, monitoring of tree fuchsia in the treated forests clearly showed that they were more likely to survive in a healthy state in the treated areas than in the untreated.

The success of intervention to reduce the mortality of tree fuchsia led to a reappraisal of the programme to assess whether or not the intervention with aerial 1080 could be used to improve populations of bird species.

### Project Kākā

The project is named for the iconic native parrot the kākā, plentiful on nearby Kāpiti Island and at Pūkaha Mount Bruce, and representative of the many species that are expected to become more abundant as a result of this programme.

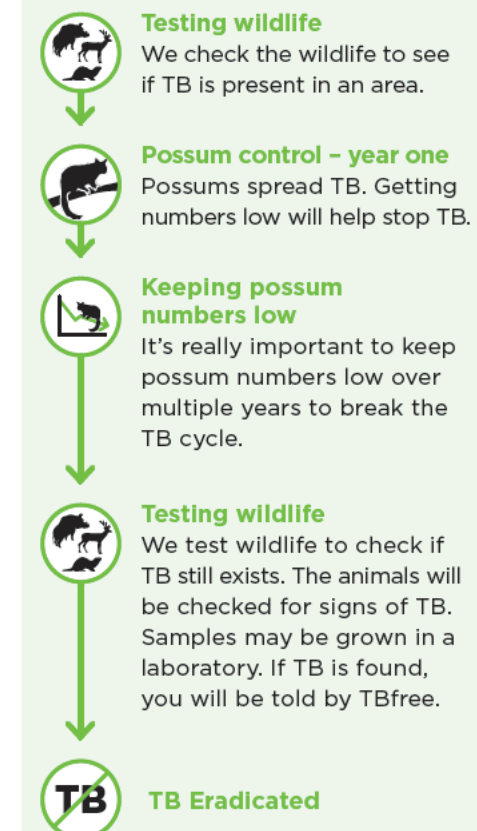
Project Kākā included 3 treatment approaches (nil 1080, 6 yearly treatment schedule and 3 yearly treatment schedule and associated monitoring of target and non-target species) and began with aerial 1080 6 yearly treatment of the Hutt catchment in 2009 followed by the

first of successive 3 yearly treatments in 2011 covering a 29,801 ha area from Ōtaki Forks to Holdsworth campground. Two further aerial operations in 2014 and 2017 have been part of the project. The 2020 operation will about OSPRI's Northern Tararua which is on the northern boundary of the Project Kākā operation. Most of this Northern Tararua area was previously part of DOC's 1994–2009 treatment program.

Intensive monitoring by DOC, OSPRI, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, and Greater Wellington Regional Council has shown significant drops in pest numbers after each 1080 operation and increasing populations of native bird species. Within the Ōtaki Forks to Holdsworth treatment area, counts of native birds (eg, bellbird, kākāriki, rifleman, tūi and whitehead) have shown increased numbers.

However, during years when there has been a high beech tree seedfall, increases in predator numbers have occurred with an associated decline in the numbers of some vulnerable native birds. 1080 operations are best timed to coincide with high beech tree seedfall events when predator population growth is high meaning the treatment would have best been delivered in spring 2019 but national priority demands on resources precluded this. The 2020 treatment will target the pest populations likely to have been boosted by the seedfall event of early 2019 and that remain elevated.

## The road to TB eradication



## OSPRI's work in Northern Tararua TB Management Area (TMA)

### Control history

The last control in the Northern Tararua TMA was in 2013 (Western Tararua), and 2014 in Mt Bruce to MikiMiki crown (Eastern Tararua). There has been no control in the central sections of this TMA since DOC's treatment in 1996 (upper Otaki), or 2001 (Mangahao/Ruamahanga).

### TB History

TB has been found in the wildlife on the eastern side on the TMA (Mt Bruce to MikiMiki crown), and on the western side of the TMA (Ōtaki Buffer). The last infected herd was in 2003 in the western section of the TMA.

## How control in bush blocks reduces TB spread

While having no TB infected herds in the area is great news for the farming community in the Tararua district, there is still a risk that the disease is present in the wildlife. OSPRI is focusing its TB control on the areas where infected wildlife may be located, such as the densely bush covered areas of the Tararua Forest Park, to eliminate any residual Bovine TB in the wildlife and to ensure final eradication of the disease from this area. The Northern Tararua predator control operation will help to reduce the risk of infected wildlife spreading out into farmland and infecting herds by knocking down the possum population to below 2% RTC. DOC's national monitoring program suggests that possum populations in the northern Tararua area are generally

higher than in the areas that have received regular aerial 1080 treatment since 2011. In 2014 Bite mark index monitoring showed 64.5% average in non-treatment but 6.7% in the Project Kaka area.

Movement restrictions of herds, regular herd TB testing, and pest management are all part of the TBfree programme to protect herds from TB infection.

Farmers can help protect their on-farm biosecurity by ensuring their NAIT accounts are up to date by recording and confirming all movements, and ensuring that they are purchasing stock with lifetime traceability.

If you would like to get involved with predator control on your own property, contact us and we will put you in touch with your local community predator control group.





Regards

s (9)(2)(a)

Compliance and Safety Coordinator

## Kapiti Coast District Council

From: s (9)(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 25 June 2020 2:30 PM

To: s (9)(2)(g)(ii) 's (9)(2)(g)(ii) >

Cc: s (9)(2)(a) s (9)(2)(a) > s (9)(2)(g)(ii) s (9)(2)(g)(ii) >

Subject: Notice of Proposal to Use Vertebrate Toxic Agents for TB Vector Control: Northern Taranaki Range

Dear s (9)(2)(g)(ii)

Epro Limited of Taupo has been contracted by TBFree New Zealand and The Department of Conservation to undertake an animal predator control project within the Northern Taranaki Range.

Epro give notice of our intention to apply sodium fluoroacetate (1080) impregnated cereal pellet baits by helicopter. The aerial operation will commence with prefeeding in late July 2020 and will be progressively completed between then and 20 December 2020, weather permitting.

A map of the operational area is included in the attached fact sheet.

We seek Council's advice as to whether you have any concerns over public water supplies in the area. We are aware of the Otaki bore supply. This will not be affected.

Please notify us if Kapiti Coast District Council has any queries or concerns relating to this project.

Regards

s (9)(2)(a)

Compliance and Safety Coordinator